

Claim 14 (Previously amended) A method for identifying compounds which inhibit, stimulate, or bind to ADAMTS-E comprising:

- (a) contacting a candidate compound with cells expressing an ADAMTS-E polypeptide of claim 19, or with cell membranes from cells expressing said ADAMTS-E polypeptide, or the media conditioned by cells expressing said polypeptide, or a purified composition of said polypeptide; and
- (b) determining inhibition or stimulation of an ADAMTS-E activity, or binding of said candidate compound to said polypeptide.

Claims 15-18 (Cancelled)

Claim 19 (Currently amended) A purified polypeptide having an amino acid sequence comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the metalloproteinase domain of SEQ ID NO: 2, an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO 2, and further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the thrombospondin domain of SEQ ID NO 2.

Claim 20 (Currently amended) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 95% identity to the amino acid sequence of the metalloproteinase domain of SEQ ID NO: 2, an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO 2, and further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the thrombospondin domain of SEQ ID NO 2.

Claim 21 (Currently amended) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 97% identity to the amino acid

sequence of the metalloproteinase domain of SEQ ID NO: 2, an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO 2, and further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the thrombospondin domain of SEQ ID NO 2.

Claim 22 (Currently amended) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 99% identity to the amino acid sequence of the metalloproteinase domain of SEQ ID NO: 2, an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO 2, and further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the thrombospondin domain of SEQ ID NO 2.

Claim 23 (Currently amended) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence comprising an amino acid sequence of the metalloproteinase domain of SEQ ID NO: 2, an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO 2, and further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the thrombospondin domain of SEQ ID NO 2.

Claim 24 (Previously presented) The polypeptide of claim 19 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 25 (Previously presented) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO 2.

Claim 26 (Previously presented) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 95% identity to the amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 27 (Previously presented) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 97% identity to the amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 28 (Previously presented) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 99% identity to the amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 29 (Previously presented) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence further comprising an amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 30 (Currently amended) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the prodomain of SEQ ID NO 2, an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO 2, and further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the thrombospondin domain of SEQ ID NO 2.

Claim 31 (Currently amended) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 95% identity to the amino acid sequence of the prodomain of SEQ ID NO: 2, an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO 2, and further

comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the thrombospondin domain of SEQ ID NO 2.

Claim 32 (Currently amended) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 97% identity to the amino acid sequence of the prodomain of SEQ ID NO: 2, an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO 2, and further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the thrombospondin domain of SEQ ID NO 2.

Claim 33 (Currently amended) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 99% identity to the amino acid sequence of the prodomain of SEQ ID NO: 2, an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO 2, and further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the thrombospondin domain of SEQ ID NO 2.

Claim 34 (Currently amended) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence further comprising an amino acid sequence of the prodomain of SEQ ID NO: 2, an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the disintegrin domain of SEQ ID NO 2, and further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the thrombospondin domain of SEQ ID NO 2.

Claim 35 (Previously presented) The polypeptide of claim 19 having an amino acid sequence further comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% identity to the amino acid sequence of the thrombospondin domain of SEQ ID NO 2.